

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim ¹~~3~~, wherein the ester is synthesized from acetic acid.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim ²~~8~~, wherein the ester is n-propyl acetate.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5, wherein the ink further comprises polyvinyl alcohol. *Cancel*

OK
cancel
5. (Currently Amended) A method of making an electrode ~~decal~~ layer, comprising:

forming a catalyst ink comprising a catalyst compound, a perfluorinated sulfonyl fluoride polymer, and an ester, wherein the ink comprises about 20 wt% to about 30 wt % of the catalyst compound, about 15 wt% to about 20 wt % the ester, about 40 wt% to about 50 wt% perfluorinated sulfonyl fluoride polymer, and about 5 wt% to about 10 wt% polyvinyl alcohol, wherein the weight percentages are based on the total weight of the ink;

disposing the catalyst ink on a ~~decal~~ substrate; and

drying the catalyst ink to form ~~an the~~ electrode layer on the decal substrate.

⁴ 6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim ¹~~5~~, wherein the catalyst compound comprises platinum and the ester is n-propyl acetate.

7 - 9 (Cancelled)

10⁵ (Previously Presented) The method of Claim ¹5, wherein the catalyst compound is selected from the group consisting of platinum, palladium, rhodium, carbon, gold, tantalum, tungsten, ruthenium, iridium, osmium, and an alloy and combination comprising at least one of the foregoing catalyst compounds.

11 – 27 (Cancelled)

6 28¹ (Previously Presented) The method of Claim ¹5, wherein the catalyst compound has a particle size of about 10 nanometers to about 100 nanometers.

7 29¹ (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ¹5, wherein the electrode layer has a thickness of less than or equal to about 2 micrometers.

30 – 31 (Cancelled)

8 32¹ (New) The method of Claim ¹5, wherein the substrate is a decal.

9 33¹ (New) The method of Claim ¹5, wherein the substrate is a proton exchange membrane.